


TRAILBLAZING HOPE
OUTDOORS

TRAILTALES

FRESH FROM THE TRAIL

<<First Name>>,

In this edition of *Trail Tales* we recap the Spring Outdoor Program, announce our NEW Trailblazer Gear Raffle and May Adventure Experiences, and a quick note from our Lead Adventurer Jonathan Slider.



Spring Outdoor Program: Camping Essentials



The Spring Outdoor Program introduced camping essentials to over 25 students from Beaver Creek, Mad River, and Fairborn schools. During the four weeks together we learned about the different types of camping gear, how to select and setup a campsite, and the different methods and techniques for building a campfire.

To help reinforce the information the hikers participated in several activities. The Cat Hole Dig featured a relay to dig a proper cat hole in order to properly "do the doo" in the outdoors. The Amazing Camp Race had our hikers answering questions, navigating with a map and compass, and racing to select and setup a campsite. In Mound Fire Mania hikers once again raced to collect their fire making kits in order to build a proper mound fire in accordance with Leave No Trace.



During the final week teams from both Wednesday and Friday competed in the Camping Championship. Ultimately the Wednesday group came out victorious by building a mound fire and burning through a rope Survivor style to claim their prize. Congrats to Nathan, Hudson, and Dalton!

NEW TRAILBLAZER GEAR RAFFLE



We are launching our brand new [Trailblazer Gear Raffle](#) program. Each season we will partner with local outdoor organizations and business to create Outdoor Gear Packages that will encourage individuals to get outside while helping us fundraise at the same time. The purchase of one raffle ticket (or a lot of raffle tickets) will help us continue to provide outdoor programming for youth in our community.

Together with local outdoor retailer [Great Miami Outfitters](#), we have put together an Outdoor Gear Package that includes some pretty awesome gear from a pretty awesome company: [Big Agnes](#). You'll be camping in no time with the [Blacktail 3 Tent](#), [Lost Dog 45 degree sleeping bag](#), and the [Air Core Ultra sleeping pad](#). We're also including a \$50 Great Miami Outfitters gift card.

Raffle valued at \$500. Winner will be drawn July 1st.



ENTER RAFFLE



MAY ADVENTURE EXPERIENCES

This month our participants will be climbing upward and onward for our rock climbing Adventure Experience on May 15th and 22nd. We will be climbing at the Wright State University indoor rock gym where our climbers will be able to put their climbing skills to the test.



The gym accommodates climbers of all levels from beginner to advanced. The gym has a 26' climbing wall with eight top rope sites and a minimum of two routes per rope at all times. For those not interested in roping up, there is also a 14' bouldering wall.

[REGISTER](#)

NOTE FROM LEAD ADVENTURER **JONATHAN SLIDER**

It really feels like we are starting to hit our groove with our organization. We are continuing to build relationships with local schools and organizations as we have added two more school districts to our participants list. We also have formed a cool partnership with local retail store [Great Miami Outfitters](#). To put the icing on the cake we are putting together a program that will provide outdoor experiences for students in the Dayton area. It is just so cool to see all of it unfold.



None of this would be possible without our amazing volunteers. We welcomed three new volunteers during the Spring Outdoor Program that brought high energy and a wealth of knowledge about the outdoors. With the addition of these volunteers our returning volunteers showed their abilities and flexibility as they had to lead the first week

as I was out due to feeling under the weather. And speaking of weather, that first week the Friday group had to adapt due to a pop up thunderstorm. Needless to say, our volunteers are incredible!

We are looking to increase our volunteer base as well as ways people and organizations can support us. If you or someone you know would be interested in getting involved there are several ways to do so. Join us as a [Hike Leader](#) during our Outdoor Programs, support us through your [financial support](#), and interact with us as you comment and share our organization through our [Facebook Page](#).



Thank you for all of your support and we will "See you on the trail!"



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